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Martin to Jim and Family, 6 October 1962

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6 October 1962

Dear Jim and family.

I tired to phone you one evening to find out how you had made out during the insurrection, but the phone lines were all jammed and I couldn't get thru. So I hope this finds you in fine shape.

Collins arrived here at 11 at nite and stayed till two and then drove on to Boston. I couldn't name anyone who is more expert on WF and we sure had a fine time together so that his wife who was waiting downtown with the car and her folks got mad at him being so late. So if it doesn't interfere with his future publications it might be that he do some text for me if I ever get a publisher. (Random is still uncommitted).

Albert Erskine told me that the Fieldon's are here and are trying to publish the story that I thought was exclusively Mrs. Brown's. They say that it waw written also for one of their own sick children?

1. The time is becoming critical so I would like to ask you the following question. Apparently hog killing is dependant on the weather and the proximity of holidays, so about when would you expect that someone kill some hogs? Would you be able to find someone in a c picturesque atmosphere who is going to do that? Would it be in Ocotber?

2. The man with the sorghum mill is Mr. J.H. Moody whose phone number used to be 480-R-4. He said that he would grind stuff and tha t he would have to first fix his mill and that might cost money. I am prepared to assisst with that. But I need to know approximately when grinding would take place and to assure him that I want to be there when he does it. Could you call him and remind him of me and find out when he thinks it will be done?

3. The answers to the above will tell me when I should be there other- wise the first dated thing that I want to do is Free Trade day in Ribpley which I am told is the first Monday of the month and therefore should be on the fifith of Novvember. Is there someone knowing in Ripley you could check with to make sure that that event will transpire? Like I suspect that it could be just during spring and summer????

Another thing I would want to work on is overcoming Mrs. Meadows' fear of what the rest of the family might think and to open up h her attic to some things that maybe even Collins doesn't know about.

4. Can we find a Negress who is perhaps nursing a white child? Or a family where the maid is very close to the children?

5. Can we loosen up for pix old man Fudge or Avent? Have you found a likely candidate for Eula Varner?

6. Tell when will there be campaingning in town are they speaking in the square? When is the cunty fair if there is one in the fall?

7. I think all these questions rather the answers or partial answers

8. to the questions will determine for me when I ought to arrive in Oxford.

Please let me know as soon as possible,
- what kind of liquer do you prefer?

Respects

Robert E.